



News Release

OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL CODE ENFORCEMENT AND BUILDING SAFETY

Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Public Safety Services

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Early Morning Fire Claims Woman's Life in Acadia Parish

Rayne, LA.- Earlier today, State Fire Marshal investigators responded to a residential fire in Rayne that claimed one life.

At approximately 2:15 am, Rayne firefighters were dispatched to 704 Bella Avenue. Upon their arrival, an 8' X 28' travel trailer being utilized as a permanent residence was found engulfed in flames. After the fire was extinguished, firefighters located the body of a middle aged female.

Investigators were dispatched to the scene to assist with determining the origin and cause of the fire. Although the victim could not be positively identified, the remains are believed to be that of 45 year old Angela White who lived at the residence. The body was released to Acadia Parish Coroner's agents and an autopsy is scheduled for later today in Calcaseiu Parish.

Investigators believe the fire originated in the bedroom area but have not yet identified the cause of the fire. Due to the severe damage to the residence, investigators have not determined whether the home was equipped with working smoke alarms.

A neighbor reported to investigators she had seen White through her window only minutes before the fire erupted. At this time, additional interviews are being conducted and officials are awaiting autopsy results which are expected later in the week.

State Fire Marshal Browning urges all Louisiana citizens to ensure their homes are equipped with at least one smoke alarm and that the smoke alarm is tested frequently to insure it is functioning properly.

Those citizens needing assistance in the purchase or installation of smoke alarms should visit the State Fire Marshal's Office web site at: lasfm.org and click on "**Operation Save A Life**". There you will find a "Smoke Detector Application and Installation" form to complete and submit online.

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